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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ryuji Ishiguro et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP01/02866

Group Art Unit:

International Filing Date: 2 April 2001

Examiner:

For: INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM AND
METHOD

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It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. A copy of each reference is enclosed. These references were cited in the background section of the present specification and/or a corresponding International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

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Dated: December 3, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
		Application Number	Not Yet Assigned		
		Filing Date			
		First Named Inventor	Ryuji Ishiguro		
		Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SONYJP-162

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A	US-5,748,736-	05-05-1998	Mittra	
	B	US-6,049,878-	04-11-2000	Caronni, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	C	JP-11-187013-A	07-09-1999	IBM Japan, Ltd.		**
	D	JP-11-250568-A	09-17-1999	Sony Corporation		**
	E	WIPO-01/03364-A1	01-11-2001	Matsushita Electric Ind., C.		✓
	F	WIPO-01/03365-A1	01-11-2001	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co		✓

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	G	WALDVOGEL, M., et al., "The VersaKey Framework: Versatile Group Key Management", IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, Vol. 17, No. 9, pages 1614 to 1631, September 1999 (09.99), pages 1616, right column to page 1621, left column	✓
	H	WONG, C. K. et al., "Secure Group Communications Using Key Graphs" Proceedings of ACM SIGCOMM'98, pages 68 to 79, 02 September, 1998 (02.09.98), 3.4 Leaving a tree key graph (http://www.acm.org/sigcomm/sigcomm98/tp/technical.html)	✓

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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